

Entertainment

## Week 1134: The ‘Sty’le Invitational Red‘ux’

Plus ‘carpe BM’ and other winning puns on foreign phrases



It's the "Aw"ard for just being on the team: This week's challenge is to find more "air quotes" — words within other words. (Bob Staake for The Washington Post )

By Pat Myers July 23 [Follow @PatMyersTWP](#)

(Click [here to skip down](#) to this week's winning puns on foreign phrases.)

**"Aw"ard:** The trophy the team gives to the schlumpy kids just for participating. (Roger Dalrymple)

**Ameri"can":** A butt larger than a size 18. (Barbara Turner)

**Se"cret in"redient:** A common marketing ploy targeting the pathologically gullible. (David Garratt)



This squirrel has no idea how ridiculous it looks!  
Then again, it doesn't care — it's eating. This  
feeder is this week's second prize.  
(archiemcpee.com)

By personal request of the long-deposed but occasionally still indulged Czar of The Style Invitational, who maintains that the Empress has not redone this contest often enough — “you have never given them the love they deserve” — we bring you another encore of our “air quotes” contest, which last ran two years ago, and before that in 2009, 2001 and 2000. Exactly the same as before: **Put quotation marks around part of a word, name or phrase and define the result**, as in the inking entries above from [Week 1031](#) in 2013. (Links to the previous results appear in this week's Style Conversational at [bit.ly/conv1134](http://bit.ly/conv1134).)

Winner gets the [Inkin' Memorial](#), the Lincoln statue bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a [squirrel feeder](#) in the shape of a hollow horsehead; if the critters are going to eat up your seeds anyway, you might as well enjoy watching them look ridiculous while doing so. (Could a similar device be created for, say, tax auditors?) Donated by Loser Diane Wah.

**Other runners-up** win their choice of a yearned-for [Loser Mug](#) or the ardently desired “Whole Fools” [Grossery Bag](#). Honorable mentions get a lusted-after Loser magnet designed by Bob Staake: either “[The Wit Hit the Fan](#)” or “[Hardly Har-Har](#).” First Offenders receive a smelly tree-shaped air “freshener” ([FirStink](#) for their first ink). E-mail entries to [losers@washpost.com](mailto:losers@washpost.com) or, if you were born in the 19th century, fax to 202-334-4312. Deadline is Monday night, Aug. 3; results published Aug. 23 (online Aug. 20). You may submit up to 25 entries per contest. Include “Week 1134” in your e-mail subject line or it might be ignored as spam. Include your real name, postal address and phone number with your entry. See contest rules and guidelines at [wapo.st/InvRules](http://wapo.st/InvRules). The headline for this week's results is by Tom Witte; the honorable-mentions subhead is by Chris Doyle. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at [on.fb.me/invdev](http://on.fb.me/invdev). “Like” the Style Invitational Ink of the Day on Facebook at [bit.ly/inkofday](http://bit.ly/inkofday).

**The Style Conversational:** The Empress's weekly online column, published late Thursday afternoon, discusses each new contest and set of results. Especially if you plan to enter, check it out at [wapo.st/styleconv](http://wapo.st/styleconv).

[And the winners of the Style Invitational contest posted four weeks ago . . .](#)

## MANQUÉ BUSINESS: THE FOREIGN-PHRASE PUNS OF WEEK 1130

In [Week 1130](#) we asked you to make a pun on a foreign term or phrase (or a foreign term that's become an English one) and describe the result. Here's *la crème* of about 1,700 entries. Not sure what the original term was? Clicking on a link below will show it to you.

### 4th place:

[Carpe BM](#): Clean up after your dog! (Neal Starkman, Seattle)

### 3rd place:

[Hate couture](#): Wrapping yourself in the Confederate flag. (Nan Reiner, visting Boca Raton, Fla.)

## **2nd place and the deck of “Aussie Sheila” cards:**

**In MoCo parentis:** Calling Child Protective Services if you see some [kids walking down the street](#). (Stephen Dudzik, Olney)

## **And the winner of the Inkin’ Memorial:**

**’Sup du jour:** Whatever greeting is currently hip. “A fist bump followed by a low five and a quiet ‘yo’ is the ‘sup du jour in Flatbush. (Bird Waring, Larchmont, N.Y.)

## **Honorable Menschen (und Frauen):**

**Choreigami:** The art of folding laundry. (Ben Aronin, Washington)

**Paterfemalias:** Caitlyn Jenner. (Mike Gips, Bethesda, Md.)

**Liberté, égalité, maternité:** The result of too much fraternité. (Stephen Gold, Glasgow, Scotland)

**Huevos ranch eros:** Breakfast on Brokeback Mountain. (Chris Doyle, Ponder, Tex.)

**Ice versa:** Giving back the engagement ring. (Tom Witte, Montgomery Village, Md.)

**Glamor vincit omnia:** What Hillary Clinton sincerely hopes is not true. (Danielle Nowlin, Fairfax Station, Va.)

**Amor vincit amnesia:** Typical soap opera plot. (Mark Raffman, Reston, Va.)

**Joie de Bieber:** It feels pretty good to be 21 years old and worth 200 million dollars. (Tom Witte)

**Jindalaya:** A concoction that somehow manages to be both bland and offensive. (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

**Ho polloi:** A cheap hooker. (Dave Prevar, Annapolis, Md.)

**Hea culpa:** It’s the other guy’s fault. (Jim Stiles, Rockville, Md.)

**Maya culpa:** It’s the Mexicans’ fault! — D. Trump (Todd DeLap, Fairfax, Va.)

**Mayor culpa:** Marion Barry, Vincent Cianci, Kwame Kilpatrick, Ray Nagin . . . (Warren Tanabe, Annapolis, Md.)

**Plus ça change, plus c’est la même shows:** The new sitcoms look a lot like the old ones. (Skip Livingston, Hopewell, N.J.)

**De Plorabus Unum:** The one thing we can all agree on is we don’t like each other. (Art Grinath, Takoma Park, Md.)

**Répondez s’il vous play:** An invitation on Tinder. (Dave Patton, Arlington, Va., a First Offender)

**Non compass mentis:** “Don’t worry, honey, I know exactly where we’re going.” (Matt Monitto, Bristol, Conn.)

**Non compost mentis:** “Did you just throw those perfectly good vegetable peels into the trash can? You must be out of your freaking mind!” (Danielle Nowlin)

**Ad hock:** Served with a special garnish to an obnoxious diner: After being ordered to “make it snappy,” Pierre served up the filet mignon ad hock.” (Jim Stiles)

**Persona non gratuity:** What the waiter will be if he serves the filet ad hock. (Jim Stiles)

**Purse-owner non grata:** It’s a man’s world. (Dudley Thompson, Cary, N.C.)

**Ladenfreude:** The collective American cheer when we learned that the Navy SEALs got their man. (Amy Harris, Charlottesville, Va.)

**Rigor Morris:** When a cat has used up its [nine lives](#). (Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn, Va.)

**Peeanissimo:** The quieter volume you get from aiming at the side of the toilet bowl. (Dave Prevar)

**Bonk vivant:** Someone who always wants to bed the life of the party. (Frank Osen)

**Boudoirk:** The opposite of a bonk vivant. (Frank Osen)

**Veryboten:** Not just out of the question, but OUT OF THE QUESTION. (Dudley Thompson)

**Coup de grass:** Lawn 1, mower 0. (Marni Penning Coleman, Falls Church, Va.)

**Coitus interruckus:** The upstairs neighbors are at it again. (Chris Doyle)

**Cri decor:** “What have you DONE to my HOUSE??” the HGTV contestant screamed. (Marni Penning Coleman)

**La dolce feta:** Greece, back in the day. (Sylvia Betts, Vancouver, B.C.)

**Chargé d'affairs:** Alimony. (John Burton, Herndon, Va.)

**Summa cum loud:** Letting everyone know, for the rest of your life, that you graduated at the top of the class. (Rick Haynes, Boynton Beach, Fla.)

**Cad infinitum:** Many a woman’s dating history. (Amy Harris)

**Caveat emptier:** Beware the overfull diaper pail. (Mark Richardson, Takoma Park, Md.)

**Caveat hemptor:** Dude, that might be oregano. (Jeff Shirley, Richmond, Va.)

**Knobless oblige:** A eunuch’s responsibility to the harem. (Jeff Shirley)

**Sooey generous:** The family-size barbecue platter. (Susan Thompson, Cary, N.C.)

**Sinus qua non:** The phlegm de la phlegm of nasal infections. (Kathy El-Assal, Middleton, Wis.)

**Sheikh semper tyrannis:** There’s not much democracy in some of those desert kingdoms. (John O’Byrne, Dublin)

**Shlalom:** The downhill path of Middle East peace. (Kevin Dopart, visiting Naxos, Greece)

**Nom de fume:** Your rants-only Twitter handle. (Pam Sweeney, Burlington, Mass.; Larry Neal, McLean, Va.)

**Nom de prune:** “California Dried Plums.” (Yuki Henninger, Vienna, Va.)

**Veni, Vidi, Vichy:** I came, I saw, I surrendered. (Neil Harris, Gaithersburg, Md., a First Offender)

**Pox populi:** Veni, VD, vici. (Jeff Contompasis)

**Lardi Gras:** An even fatter Tuesday. (Rob Huffman, Fredericksburg, Va.)

**Tardi Gras:** Fat Thursday. (John Glenn, Tyler, Tex.)

**Stoat couture:** Genuine furs at a lower price point. (John McCooey, Rehoboth Beach, Del.)

**Entree nous:** “I’m not that hungry — I’ll just have a little of yours.” (Marni Penning Coleman)

**Tannenbomb:** The Style Invitational [FirStink](#) “prize.” (Emily Davis, Bloomington, Ind.)

Still running — deadline Monday night, July 27: our contest for clerihews. See [bit.ly/invite1133](https://bit.ly/invite1133).

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